



Agenda item 6.2
For information

Council

CNL(17)13

Programme for the 2017 Special Session

*Salmon and People in a Changing World - Planning for the International
Year of the Salmon*

CNL(17)13

Salmon and People in a Changing World - Planning for the International Year of the Salmon

A Special Session of the Council of NASCO
Wednesday (pm) 7 June 2017

1. At its Thirty-Third (2016) Annual Meeting, the Council had recognised that an International Year of the Salmon (IYS) could provide a very good opportunity to raise awareness of the factors driving salmon abundance, the environmental and anthropogenic challenges they face and the measures being taken to address these. An Outline Proposal for an IYS, entitled '*Salmon and People in a Changing World*', which included a proposed rationale, vision, themes and timings for the IYS, together with details of its scope, a governance model and initial budgetary considerations, was broadly accepted subject to some provisional points of clarification. The North Atlantic Steering Committee was asked to develop recommendations for a half-day Special Session to be held during the 2017 Annual Meeting which would focus on the planning of IYS activities.
2. The North Atlantic Steering Committee met in London in early November 2016 and its report is contained in document CNL(17)12. The Committee discussed several options for the Special Session and agreed that, after a brief introduction on the work of the various IYS Committees over the last year, it would present a compilation of the IYS activities being planned by each Party/jurisdiction (see CNL(17)12). The North Atlantic Steering Committee also agreed that it would be useful to have a presentation on the benefits of a previous 'International Year' from one of its organisers. There will, therefore, be a presentation on the International Years of the Reef (IYOR), held in 1997 and 2008, including challenges and perceived benefits and planning for the third IYOR in 2018. The aims of the IYOR are to strengthen awareness globally about the value of, and threats to, coral reefs and associated ecosystems; promote partnerships between governments, the private sector, academia and civil society on the management of coral reefs; identify and implement effective management strategies for conservation, increased resiliency and sustainable use of these ecosystems and promoting best practices; and share information on best practices in relation to sustainable coral reef management. There are, it seems, many common themes with the IYS.
3. There will also be a presentation on the World Fish Migration Day (WFMD), last held in 2016 and next scheduled for 21 April 2018. The main goal of the WFMD is to improve the public's understanding of the importance of migratory fish, the need for healthy rivers, the communities that depend on both and the options available to minimise or avoid impacts. The presentation will highlight the benefits of the WFMD and the importance of strategic partnerships working towards common interests and the enabling role of governments. The WFMD has run an extremely successful outreach programme with more than 70,000,000 contacts around the world.

4. The IYS is entitled '*Salmon and People in a Changing World*' and it seeks, *inter alia*, to improve understanding and awareness of the ecological, social, cultural and economic values of salmon. The North Atlantic Steering Committee agreed that it would be valuable to have a presentation on the human dimension to cover the many values associated with the Atlantic salmon. The success of the IYS will depend on partnerships and extra-governmental involvement and NASCO is fortunate in having a well-developed and active network of partners, including its accredited NGOs. There will also be a presentation by our NGOs on their role in implementing the IYS. Each presentation has been allocated 30 minutes (to include 5 minutes for questions). The programme will also allow for general discussion of the presentations with contributions welcome from all participants.
5. The North Atlantic Steering Committee hopes that the Special Session will provide a forum for discussion of IYS activities and serve to inspire, enable and empower those involved in the initiative with a view to ensuring a successful outcome for the IYS.

Secretary
Edinburgh
7 April 2017



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Programme

	Title	Contributor
14.00 - 14.25	Introduction - Activities of the IYS Committees and Summary of Proposed IYS Activities by Parties/jurisdictions	IYS North Atlantic Steering Committee
14.25 - 14.55	The NGO role in implementing a successful IYS	Steve Sutton, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Canada, NGO Co-Chair
14.55 - 15.25	The International Years of the Reef - challenges and benefits	Emily Corcoran, former Deputy Secretary of the OSPAR Commission, London, UK; and former member of the International Coral Reef Initiative Secretariat
15.25 - 15.45	Tea/coffee break	
15.45 - 16.15	World Fish Migration Day - strategic partnerships and the role of governments	Kerry Brink, World Fish Migration Foundation, Deventer, The Netherlands
16.15 - 16.45	Atlantic salmon - the human dimension	Robert Arlinghaus, Humbolt University, Berlin, Germany
16.45 - 17.30	General Discussion	
17.30	Close of Session	Dan Morris, Chairman of the IYS North Atlantic Steering Committee